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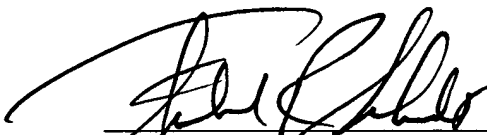
In re Application of	:	
Richard A. Hopkins et al	:	
Application No. 10/722,279	:	WTHDRAWAL
Filed: November 24, 2003	:	FROM ISSUE
Title: Cardiac Valve Replacement	:	

The purpose of this communication is to inform you that the above-identified application is being withdrawn from issue pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.313.

The application is being withdrawn to permit reopening of prosecution due to unpatentability of one or more claims. See 37CFR 1.313(b)(3).

PTO records reveal that the issue fee has not been paid. If the fee has been submitted, the applicant may request a refund or may request that the fee be credited to a deposit account. However, applicant may wait until the application is either again found allowable or held abandoned. If the application is allowed, upon receipt of a new Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due, applicant may request that the previously submitted issue fee be applied toward payment of the issue fee in the amount identified on the new Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due. If the application is abandoned, applicant may request either a refund or a credit to a deposit account.

The application is being forwarded to the Examiner for action.

  
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Frederick R. Schmidt, Director  
Technology Center 3700